

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 57th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION JOINT APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON LONG RANGE PLANNING

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN MATT MCCANN**, on January 24, 2001 at 8:00 A.M., in Room 350 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Matt McCann, Chairman (D)
Sen. Tom A. Beck (R)
Rep. Dave Kasten (R)
Sen. Jon Tester (D)
Rep. Steve Vick (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Bob Keenan, Vice Chairman (R)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Jane Hamman, OBPP
Andrea Hyatt, Committee Secretary
Brian McCullough, Legislative Branch
Jon Moe, Legislative Branch
Christi Tyson, OBPP

Please Note: These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: HB 10, 1/21/2001 & HB 12,
1/21/2001
Executive Action:

CHAIRMAN MCCANN opened the hearing.

HEARING ON HB 12

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

REP. DICK HAINES, HD 63, presented his bill to the committee and stated he would bring an amendment to the committee to consider at a later date.

Proponents' Testimony:

Tom Livers, Department of Environmental Quality, provided information and history about the bill continuing the program for retrofit. He provided the committee with a copy of his testimony. **EXHIBIT(jlh19a01)** He also provided a list of the projects. **EXHIBIT(jlh19a02)** Discussion followed regarding the list and committee questions were answered. They discussed an amendment.

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 25}

Tom Livers continued his presentation.

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 218}

Tom Livers provided a prospective amendment and discussed its impact. **EXHIBIT(jlh19a03)** Discussion followed. **CHAIRMAN MCCANN** stated that the amendment seems premature. No action was taken at this time. Discussion followed.

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 303}

Deb Martin Young, Montana Power Company (MPC), spoke in support of this bill. The company has always participated in support of this energy conservation program.

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 341}

Debbie Smith, Natural Resources Defense Council and the Renewable Northwest Project, is in support of the bill and the energy conservation program.

Opponents' Testimony: None.

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 370 - 452}

Closing by Sponsor:

REP. HAINES thanked the committee and proponents. He provided some informational background on the projects. He apologized on the last minute announcement of the amendment and will go with whatever the committee decides. **CHAIRMAN MCCANN** requested that **REP. HAINES** prepare two amendments; one with the long term program he suggested and the second, in the event they do not pass the first amendment, would be a proposed list of projects for the bill as it is now.

CHAIRMAN MCCANN closed the hearing on HB 12.

HEARING ON HB 10

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 460-472}

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

REP. KASTEN brought forward HB 10 and discussed the bill and funding. He presented an amendment. **EXHIBIT(jlh19a04)**

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 0}

REP. KASTEN continued his opening statement.

He discussed the amendment and its impact. No action was taken at this time.

Proponents' Testimony:

Tom Livers, DEQ, provided the overview of the bill, discussed the history of receiving the oil overcharge funds and how it was spent. This may be the last session of receiving these funds. **EXHIBIT(jlh19a05)**

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 76}

Ralph Peck, Director of Montana Department of Agriculture, spoke in support of HB 10 and discussed the importance of sections 5 and 7 of the bill to their department.

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 84}

Jim Nolan, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS), spoke in support of HB 10 and discussed the importance of section 8 to their department. He described the use of the funding.

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 113}

Peggy Grimes, Executive Director, Montana Food Bank Network, spoke in support of section 4 of HB 10. She described the importance of the funds for their agencies; she provided a four page savings overview and a pamphlet. **EXHIBIT(jlh19a06)**

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 139}

Charles Rehbein, DPHHS, Senior & Long Term Care Division, Bureau Chief for Aging Services, spoke in support of HB 10 section 6. He discussed the use of the funding for providing rides to clients.

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 151}

Mike Allen, board member of Ethanol Producers And Consumers (EPAC). Stated they are a non-profit group who promotes and educates on ethanol. He described their program's outreach to schools, farm groups and communities. He spoke in favor of HB 10.

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 182}

Greg Groepper, representing Energy Share Montana, part-time director, provided a copy of their annual report; a pamphlet entitled "Keep the home fires burning" and a fact sheet on funds spent. **EXHIBIT(jlh19a07)** He discussed the history and background of the organization. He discussed the importance of **REP. KASTEN'S** amendment and Section 13.

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 270}

Tom Bolan, HRDC-District 4, spoke in support of HB 10 and its contributions to low-income family; the weatherization program and other benefits.

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 292}

Vicki Lynne, representing National Center for Appropriate Technology, spoke in support of section 7 of HB 10. She provided a handout on the AM400 Soil Moisture Monitor and discussed the benefits to irrigation. **EXHIBIT(jlh19a08)**

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 370}

Bob Stephens, representing Montana Green Growers Association, spoke in support of section 5 and section 7. He described the use of the funding and their hopes of obtaining an ethanol plant.

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 417}

Deb Martin Young, Montana Power Company (MPC), spoke in support of HB 10; provided history background on the universal system benefit program and use of the funds.

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 26-255}

Deb Martin Young continued her testimony.

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

REP. VICK questioned the total funding in the bill. **CHAIRMAN MCCANN** questioned the availability of funds and source. **Tom Livers** and **Jane Hamman** responded. Discussion followed. **CHAIRMAN MCCANN** questioned if they had a backup plan if they do not receive funds. **Greg Groepper** responded.

Closing by Sponsor:

REP. KASTEN thanked the committee and proponents for attending and he will provide further information for Executive Action.

The meeting adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 9:45 A.M.

REP. MATT MCCANN, Chairman

ANDREA HYATT, Secretary

MM/AH

EXHIBIT (j1h19aad)